

Message Text

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63

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-14 USIA-04 IO-03 DRC-01 /065 W

----- 028975

P R 071730Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8354

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 2324

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, TO

SUBJ: CATHOLIC CHURCH COLLIDES WITH EYADEMA ON CHRISTIAN NAME
ISSUE

1. RELATIONS BETWEEN GOT AND CATHOLIC CHURCH IN TOGO TOOK SUDDEN,
VIOLENT TURN FOR WORSE YESTERDAY (OCTOBER 6) WHEN
TOGOLESE
PRIEST USED RADIO-TOGO BROADCAST OF 8 A.M. MASS FROM LOME
CATHEDRAL TO PREACH STRONG SERMON AGAINST ABANDONING OF CHRISTIAN
NAMES. GOVT REACTION WAS AMAZINGLY SWIFT: MILITARY OFFICERS
WENT TO CATHEDRAL LOOKING FOR HIM BY 10 A.M. AND HAD HIM UNDER
ARREST AT CAMP MILITAIRE SHORTLY. TOGO-PRESSE TODAY (OCTOBER 7)
CARRIES LETTERS FROM UP-COUNTRY GOTOGOLESE POSTAL SERVICE ON
SUNDAY?) DENOUNCING PRIEST AND CHURCH, AND CALLING FOR
NATIONALIZATION
OF CHURCH SCHOOLS. MININFORMATION SPOKE YESTERDAY AT RPT RALLY
AND LINKED CHURCH WITH INTERNATIONAL CAPITALISM. CATHOLIC
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ARCHBISHOP AND HIGH CLERGY SAW PRESIDENT THIS MORNING TO

APOLOGIZE; AS SIGN OF ASSENT TO AUTHENTICITY CAMPAIGN,
ARCHBISHOP AND COLLEAGUES ANNOUNCED THEY ARE CHANGING THEIR
NAMES.

2. SEPTEL FOLLOWS WITH DETAILS.
RAWLS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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